

MINUTES



Date: 26 October 2023 – 6pm via ZOOM

Topic: Monthly Regular Meeting

Attendance: Alex Harvie (Chair), Duncan Fraser (CCC), John McHenery (CCC), Gregor Harvie (Adviser CCC), Keith Hammond (CCC), Angus Campbell (CCC), Graham Wallace (Adviser CCC), Lorraine Fraser (Cumbrae Forum), Cllr Todd Ferguson, Cllr Ian Murdoch, Cllr Tom Marshall, Bobby McLeish (Mackley), John Wright (HM Coastguard), Tempany Grace (Largs and Millport News) + 12 members of the public.

Apologies: John Riggins (CCC), Scott Watson (Carbon Neutral Island), Julie McAleese (Cumbrae Primary), Thomas Reaney (NAC), Canon Alec Boyd (Cumbrae Cathedral), Jan Wilkie (CCDC), Cllr Alan Hill, Angie McCallum (Millport Town Hall), Kyle Pratt (Police Scotland), Ruaridh McIntyre (Golf Club).

Welcome Alex H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair declared the meeting quorate. Minutes of previous meeting approved https://cumbrae.org/CCC_Minutes.html
Organisations	
Police Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
HM Coastguard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will be continuing regular training throughout Autumn at various island locations. Area flood response team deployed to help respond to Storm Babet on East coast. Completed interviews for three new recruits on Cumbrae bringing the team of nine to full-strength.
IOCTA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
CCDC, Jan W	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
Cumbrae Forum Lorraine F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM tomorrow afternoon at 2pm in Cumbrae Community Church, all welcome. Bus trip to Port Glasgow retail park has had to be cancelled due to ramp issues on the Loch Shira, resulting in the vessel not being able to transport coaches on this service. All who had purchased tickets are being contacted to arrange reimbursement. We are busy getting ready for our Christmas projects, update next month.
Millport Motors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
Millport Golf Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
Cumbrae Primary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report
Field Studies Council, Duncan F	<p>Once again, the centre has been very busy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glasgow Uni arrived with over 100 students on 2 trips, Liverpool John Moore’s Uni travelled up with 30, Hull Uni with 70 and Napier from Edinburgh with 32. Schools: Inverurie, Uddingston, and Glasgow High enjoyed field trips. The Outdoor Writers & Photographers Guild of Scotland had a great time exploring the island & also enjoyed a Scottish themed dinner & Ceilidh. A dive company from Stirling visited to explore the Island and plan setting up a dive teaching facility at FSC, they had a few dives around the Island on wrecks. This weekend we have a whole centre booking with The Kadampa Buddhist Meditation Group bringing 136 people from Glasgow. The RV Actinia gets lifted out of the water next week for annual overhaul.
Ferry Users Group Angus C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We have written to the Transport Minister again (20 Oct) for a meeting. Main issues: restoration of discounted season tickets, multi journey tickets for SPT ticket holders and teenagers, rolling 6 month validity. Technical Reliability: 2 issues with the main ferry over the past week. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Engine room fire on Sunday 22, no ferry from 1400 to 1900. Communications suggested no replacement service until the following day, 500 passengers on the island. Concerns over the status/mobilisation of resilience team. To be followed up with NAC. (In the event, MV Loch Riddon was mobilised to clear passengers by 2330. Thanks to the crew and all islanders involved.) Calmac’s contingency plans for the island have outstanding actions (since 2022) and we feel they are inadequate and inconsistent. MV Loch Shira currently operating with one ramp due to cracks in the second. This requires a drydock repair, however due to other breakdowns (Loch Riddon, Loch Linnhe, Isle of Cumbrae) replacement isn’t clear. Ferry committee communicated concerns over the ramps to Calmac in July.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferry Committee Meeting on Tuesday 29 August confirmed that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improvements in online bookings planned in Sept to avoid the need to provide detailed personal information for each online ticket are outstanding. b. Relief vessel for January 2024 MV Loch Shira overhaul to be MV Lochinvar. c. Calmac raised concerns over the volume/weight of Flood Defence vehicles. Todd Ferguson following up with NAC. d. Improvements in the white lining to help visually impaired travellers have been implemented at Cumbrae Slip based on feedback from the community e. Calmac remain unable (Oct) to produce public figures on ferry usage for this route (and all other routes) from their new E Ticketing system • Cumbrae Slip rebuild. CMAL have revised (and improved) their plans following the June public consultation. Further consultation pending. Remaining unresolved issue is lack of weather resilience in the design of Cumbrae Slip, which the committee feel is unacceptable given the increase in windy days due to global warming. • Strategic Review of the Cumbrae Ferry Service: still waiting details of Transport Scotland’s plans This was supposed to take place this summer. We want a long term solution, improved winter reliability, capacity for summer visitors, but not at the expense of island residents. Key outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Less Ferry Disruption on windy (but not extreme stormy) days b. Improve resilience to a single point of failure in the transport network c. Reverse depopulation trends d. Reduce Cumbrae’s carbon footprint e. Encourage more visitors to Cumbrae, but with fewer cars f. Improve the visitor experience to encourage and grow active travel, g. Ensure islanders can get access to the ferry as required h. Ensure pricing for islanders isn’t increased • Demonstration: Saturday 4th November at Cumbrae Slip at 1015hrs (Bus at 0955 from pier). The demonstration will conclude prior to the 1030 ferry, as there is no plan to disrupt the service. Further details on Facebook. • Discussion – school bus issues, why is Calmac allowing 42 tonne vehicles from flood defences on and not buses?
Cathedral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canon Alec gave apologies as he was heading to Oban for the funeral for Bishop Keith. He is meeting up with the Diocesan secretary and treasurer.
Millport Bowling Club, John McH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawn bowls and putting are now closed for the season, though the bridge, scrabble and short mat indoor bowls sections are still playing. • The solar powered heating system has been installed by Green Home Systems and is working well.
Island projects	
Ten Year Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report
Carbon Neutral Islands, Scott W	<p>Strategic and data related work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy infrastructure and options appraisal by Community Energy Scotland remains on track for delivery in December. • Consultant for further work within the landuse sector appointed: Aquaterra. • Meetings held: 'Pan-Ayrshire Energy Masterplan' and 'Ayrshire Climate Hub'. • Discussions on going with both NAC Active Travel and CMAL with regards to improvements within transport sector for Cumbrae. <p>Specific project updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area Based Scheme (known as EASE:ABS) through NAC has progressed, m-four appointed as project manager. Submit applications via carbonneutralcumbrae.co.uk. • Green Home Systems, and m-four that are the contractors appointed by NAC. • Millport Bowling Club installation of solar, battery and air source heat pump. • Proposal being put together with Cumbrae Primary School for climate change and sustainability related facilities as part of their outdoor classroom. • Energy Efficiency audits and wider carbon audits to be offered to local businesses free of charge in conjunction with Business Energy Scotland. • Discussions ongoing with NAC regarding the proposed marina.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you to Cumbrae Age Concern for hosting, happy to talk to local groups. • Ayrshire Climate Hub coming – dates are on Face Book.
Town Hall, email from Angie McC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The side atrium extension is not yet completed. The roofers and bricklayers cannot work at height in high winds and extreme weather conditions. • Air Source Heat Pumps will be installed on the roof above the old lesser Town Hall as soon as it is possible to lay the roof covering. • Funding has been achieved from The Mickel Fund for internal signage. • A joint application between Millport Town Hall and CCDC has been submitted to the Locality Partnership UK Shared Prosperity Participatory Budget Fund. Voting closes on November 11th and residents are encouraged to vote either online or at Millport Library.
Flood Prevention Scheme Bobby McL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noisy works letters have been issued to local households for activity in small hours. • 4 notable complaints this month – noise in Clyde St and Kames Bay, lack of dust suppression in Kames Bay as soil redistributed. Bobby to provide dates for reduction of heap. • Discussion about working outside normal hours and construction environmental management plan.
Marina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report
Issues arising	
Planning & licencing, Gregor H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar farm appeal now includes 272 documents, target date on website for decision is 28 December. • Proposal for 12 Crichton Street to be turned into 2 flats, see facebook post. • Development of Local Place Plan underway.
Island issues Thomas R (by email)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unfortunately line marking contractor has not yet attended to replace the road markings on Cumbrae. Preparing to go to 3 alternative contractors for quotations. • Japanese knotweed map forwarded to Streetscene who are reviewing the locations. • ‘No overnight parking’ signs: Regeneration has advised that unfortunately it does not have the resource capacity to investigate and secure the necessary land owner permissions for 25 sites. Is this something the Community Council can assist with? • Electric charging point: Regeneration are in the process of awarding a contract to provide the EV point near the bank. The contractor will also be tasked with removing the “old” partially completed EV point and re-instating the footway. Discussion about leaving space for disabled access: Chair to inform Thomas. • Undermined revetment in Kames Bay: Mackley is going to carry out the repairs once they move to this section of the foreshore, which is expected to be soon. The area has been made safe.
Councillors’ updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Murdoch – bins issue and street issues. • XLCC next proposal is in, see application. • DPE introduction will mean people may get parking tickets in Largs. Tourism impact. • Cllr Marshall – Proposal for Peel Ports to infill dry dock for building wind tower bases for offshore wind farms. • Cllr Ferguson – AirBnB bins not taken out, speeding issue, investigating lack of police issue.
Next meeting	AGM Thursday 30 November 6pm on Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87587244140